UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr
GENERAL

S/1999/870
10 August 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 10 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 1 and 7 August 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States - namely, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey - that are providing the facilities that enable them to commit these acts of aggression, with a view to halting them. Such acts endanger the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

These acts continue to cause hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to private and public property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 1-7 August 1999

1. In the northern region, 58 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Baibo, Ayn Zalah, Tall Kayf, Sinjar, Rawanduz and Ba'shiqah.

2. In the southern region, 283 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Afak, Qala't Salih, Qala't Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Qadisiyah, Ali al-Sharqi, Hayy, Hawr al-Hammar, Maymunah, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Shu'aybah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab, Rifa'i and Umm Qasr.

3. At 0645 hours on 1 August 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and Tornadoes, and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. The aircraft carried out 14 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Ushbayjah, Lasaf and Taqtaqanah south areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1030 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1055 hours on 2 August 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 54 sorties, of which 14 were from Saudi airspace. The aircraft overflew the Salman, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Rifa'i, Qala't Salih, Jalibah, Artawi, Busayyah, Khidr and Qala't Sukkar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1815 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1030 hours on 2 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 20 sorties, and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

6. At 1115 hours on 3 August 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs, and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Salman, Busayyah,

Jalibah, Artawi, Basra, Faw, Hawr al-Hammar and Darraji areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1845 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1105 hours on 3 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 20 sorties, and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Baibo, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz, Ayn Zalah and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1030 hours on 4 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 50 sorties, 26 from Kuwaiti airspace and 24 from Saudi airspace. The aircraft overflew the Samawah, Lasaf, Salman, Ushbayjah, Rifa'i, Nasiriyah and Hawr al-Hammar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1815 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1105 hours on 4 August 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 sorties, overflying the Dohuk, Tall Afar, Mosul and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

10. At 0905 hours on 5 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 28 sorties, 10 from Saudi airspace and 18 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Artawi, Samawah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Rumaythah, Rifa'i, and Shatrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1020 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1040 hours on 7 August 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs, and were supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 20 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Artawi, Basra, Qurnah, Lasaf, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Salman, Shinafiyah and Ma'ayanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1750 hours, drove them off.

12. At 0825 hours on 8 August 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They were supported by two AWACS command and control

from Kuwaiti airspace, overflying the Ma'ayanah, Ushbayjah, Khidr, Artawi, Salman, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Qala't Sukkar and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2015 hours, drove them off.

13. At 1045 hours on 8 August 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 sorties, overflying the Rawanduz, Dohuk, Aqrah, Sinjar, Mosul, Baibo, Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Irbil and Qala't Dizah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.